

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 080091

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PL, UR

SUBJECT: TALKING POINTS ON US SOVIET RELATIONS AND SALT

1. AS YOU REQUESTED, FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS HAVE BEEN PRE-
PARED FOR YOUR MEETING WITH GIEREK:

2. BEGIN TEXT

-- AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT, THERE ARE ELEMENTS OF DISAGREEMENT
AS WELL AS COOPERATION IN US RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET
UNION. WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE A DEGREE OF STA-
BILITY IN OUR RELATIONSHIP BUT IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT WE
DO NOT SEE EYE TO EYE ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES.

-- IN RECENT MONTHS, OUR RELATIONSHIP HAS BEEN TROUBLED BY
SOVIET MILITARY INTERVENTION IN THE HORN OF AFRICA; THE HIGH
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LEVEL OF SOVIET AND CUBAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN ETHIOPIA HAS
HAD A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON US PUBLIC OPINION.

-- AT THE SAME TIME, WE THINK THERE ARE AREAS WHERE THE US
AND USSR HAVE A MUTUAL INTEREST IN REACHING AGREEMENT. ONE
OF THE MOST IMPORTANT IS A SALT AGREEMENT WHICH WE BELIEVE
WOULD BENEFIT BOTH OUR COUNTRIES.

-- WE WERE ABLE TO RESOLVE A NUMBER OF DIFFICULT ISSUES DURING SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO'S VISIT TO THE US IN SEPTEMBER; SINCE THAT TIME THE TWO DELEGATIONS IN GENEVA HAVE CONTINUED TO MAKE PROGRESS IN RESOLVING OR NARROWING DIFFERENCES ON THE REMAINING ISSUES. OTHERS HAVE YET TO BE SETTLED; IT IS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT HOW LONG THIS MIGHT TAKE.

-- WE HAVE ALSO MADE GOOD PROGRESS IN OUR NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA FOR A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN PROHIBITING ALL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS.

-- WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT WE CAN ACHIEVE GREATER MOVEMENT IN THE VIENNA FORCE REDUCTIONS TALKS, NOW THAT WE HAVE RESOLVED OUR PROCEDURAL DIFFERENCES OVER THE DATA DISCUSSION. END TEXT. COOPER

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